

EPA ID: NJN008010373 Site Name: BARTH SMELTING CORP.

State ID:

Alias Site Names: BARTH SMELTHING AND REFINING CORP.

City: NEWARK

Refer to Report Dated: 9/1/2013

County or Parish: ESSEX

State: NJ

Report Developed By: Weston Solutions

Report Type: SITE INSPECTION 001

☐ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment Under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:

☒ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:

Higher priority for further assessment

### Discussion/Rationale:

The former Barth Smelting site is located on 99 Chapel Street in Newark, New Jersey in a mixed of commercial, light industry and residential neighborhood. Currently the site is paved and has several businesses operating at 99 Chapel Street, which include AG Ship Maintenance Corp, Portwide Cargo Securing Co and the law firm of Lee & Palmer Inc. The Terrell Homes Apartment complex, operated by Newark Housing Authority (NHA), is located south of the former Barth Smelting facility, with a concrete wall separating the two properties, and across 99 Chapel Street are residential properties to the east.

EPA Removal and Pre-Remedial program initiated an integrated assessment on September 2012 for which the Removal program would handle all on-site activities, and Pre-Remedial would handle all off-site activities (i.e the housing complex playground, residential homes, and collection of background samples). The off-site sampling activities began on December 3, 2012 where surface and sub-surface soil samples were collected at the playground of the Terrell Home housing complex; as well as in nearby residences.

Analytical results of the playground samples shows high level of Lead concentration at various depth along the playground area above EPA's residential soil screening level of 400 mg/kg. The average concentration detected at the one inch depth was 1,127 mg/kg. Overall Lead concentrations at the playground ranged from 103 mg/kg to 8,920 mg/kg. These results were shared with NHA to discuss actions to be taken to restrict access to the playground area. On February 20, 2013, NHA removed all the playground equipment and on February 21, 2013 EPA installed a temporary chain link fence along the perimeter of the playground to restrict access to the contaminated soils.

In the spring of 2013, EPA-RST team returned to collect soil samples from other areas "grassy" of Terrell Homes that previously were not sampled. This sampling activity was done to determine if historical operations from 99 Chapel had impacted the soil at Terrell Homes. Soil samples were collected on March 29 to April 1 2013, and were collected at the following depth intervals 0-1", 1-6", 6-12", 12-18", and 18-24" bgs. Lead concentrations were detected above the residential soil screening level in the top two feet of soil in the grassy area adjacent to the housing complex buildings.

Sampling of 99 Chapel Street(aka former Barth Smelting) occurred on march, 2013 with soil samples collected at depth intervals of 0-1", 1-6", 6-12", 12-18" and 18-24". Asphalt paving were present at the property, an urban garden used by two residents was also sampled. Results showed presence of elevated lead concentrations above the EPA's Residential Soil Screening level of 400 mg/kg in fourteen soil samples, with the highest detection of 11,000 mg/kg at the 12-18" interval.

A further action under CERCLA is recommended for the Barth Smelting site due to the following conclusions:

"The HRS site score is above the required threshold for NPL listing.

"A release of Lead (Pb) is well documented.

"Lead (Pb) contamination in the Terrell Homes may be attributable to past operations at the site.

Future action will be undertaken by the Removal Program, which will include a Removal Action to address the release of lead. This removal action would address the unpaved/grassy areas of Terrell Homes along with the Playground area; as well as an engineering controls along 99 chapel Street.

EPA ID: NJN008010373 Site Name: BARTH SMELTING CORP.

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Site Decision Made by: JAMES DESIR

Signature: 

Date: 09/27/2013